

State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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EASLEY APPOINTS BONFOEY TO WNC DISTRICT ATTORNEY VACANCY

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley today appointed veteran lawyer Michael Bonfoey to serve as district attorney for the seven Western North Carolina counties that comprise the 30th Judicial District.

Bonfoey fills the vacancy created by the Feb. 28 death of Charles Hipps, who had served as district attorney since 1990.

"Michael Bonfoey has the experience, judgment, and temperament needed to lead the District Attorney's Office during this difficult time," Gov. Easley said. "In addition to ably handling a wide variety of civil and criminal cases, Michael has provided years of public service to the legal community and his local community."

A 1976 graduate of the law school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Bonfoey has spent most of the ensuing years practicing law in the 30th District. His varied legal experience includes service as an assistant district attorney, attorney for the Town of Waynesville, president of the 30th Judicial District Bar Association, and member of the Disciplinary Hearing Commission of the N.C. State Bar. Since 1995, he has been a partner in the Waynesville law firm of Brown, Ward & Haynes.

The prosecutorial district Bonfoey will head is comprised of the counties of Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Jackson, Macon and Swain.

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